

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07

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AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEL AVIV 7448

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ILO, ELAB,PINS IS

SUBJECT: FOREIGN MINISTRY COMMENTS ON FORTHCOMING IL GOVERNING BODY
MEETING

REF: TEL AVIV 7422

1. THE LABOR ATTACHE CALLED ON MFA ACTING DIRECTOR FOR
INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, JOEL BARROMI, TO OBTAIN ISRAELI
ASSESSMENT OF THE FORTHCOMING ILO GOVERNMENT BODY MEETING.
BARROMI SAID THAT ISRAELI AMBASSADOR IN GENEVA RONN HAD
MET ILO DIRECTOR GENERAL BLANCHARD IN NEW YORK ON OCTOBER 22
TO REVIEW THE HANDLING OF THE ISSUE OF LABOR CONDITIONS IN THE
OCCUPIED AREAS. BLANCHARD ASSURED RONN THAT HE WANTED THE MATTER
CLOSED AND OFFERED THE FOLLOWING WORDING TO BE
APPENDED AT THE END OF THE REPORT WHICH HE PLANS TO SUBMIT
TO THE GOVERNING BODY: "AFTER CAREFULLY REFLECTING ON THE
STATUS OF THE MATTER,THE DIRECTOR GENERAL IS OF THE OPINION
THAT LITTLE CAN BE FURTHER ACCOMPLISHED BY HIS OFFICE.
HE THEREFORE PROPOSED THAT HIS REPORT(S) TO THE GOVERN-
ING BODY BE HEREBY CONSIDERED AS COMPLETED."

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2. BARROMI SAID THAT THE GOI PREFERRED "REPORTS" TO "REPORT" INORDER TO MAKE CLEAR THAT THIS ENDED THE DG'S RESPONSIBILITY IN THIS MATTER. HE HOPED THE REPORT WOULD BE SIMPLY DISTRIBUTED TO THE GOVERNING BODY MEETING WITHOUT DEBATE, SINCE A DEBATE COULD FORCE THE ISSUE TO BE LEFT PENDING FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION. HE WONDERED IF WASHINGTON HAD ANY ADDITIONAL INDICATION AS TO THE PROPOSED HANDLING OF THE REPORT. IN THIS CONNECTION HE FOUND THE DG'S REPLY TO MOHAMMED FAHMY'S LETTER INDICATING THAT BLANCHARD FELT HE HAD THE GOVERNING BODY'S APPROVAL FOR CONTINUING HIS FACT FINDING EFFORTS AS CONTRADICTORY AND DISTURBING. HOWEVER, HE MUSED THAT THE CONTEXT IN WHICH THE LETTER WAS WRITTEN MIGHT HAVE BEEN OVERTAKEN BY SUBSEQUENT DEVELOPMENTS.

3. CLEARLY THE FOREIGN MINISTRY IS LESS CRITICAL OF BLANCHARD THAN DIRECTOR GENERAL GUREL OF THE LABOR MINISTRY (REFTEL) AND DOES NOT ATTRIBUTE TO HIM CONSPIRATORIAL DESIGNS. HOWEVER, IT IS FULLY CONSCIOUS OF BLANCHARD'S HIS DELICATE TASK OF BALANCING ON THE ONE HAND U.S. AND WESTERN INTERESTS WITH WHICH HE BASICALLY SYMPATHIZES AND THE PRESSURES AND INTERESTS OF THE ARABS AND THE THIRD WORLD BLOC, WHICH, GIVEN THE PRESENT CLIMATE IN ALL UN AGENCIES, HE CANNOT IGNORE. HOWEVER, BLANCHARD KNOWS THAT U.S. FUNDING AND ARAB FUNDING ARE NOT COMPARABLE. WHEREAS THE ONE IS POLITICALLY UNTIED, THE OTHER IS NOT. TOON

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